

For Immediate Release: October 11, 2012 Contact: Joseph Centorino, Executive Director (305) 350-0613 or <u>centori@miamidade.gov</u>

Hundreds of civic leaders heading to school for Ethical Governance Day

High school seniors across Miami-Dade County will be treated to special classroom speakers on **Friday, October 12, 2012, as part of Ethical Governance Day** activities. Hundreds of political and public activists, community leaders, attorneys and educational advocates are volunteering in 12th grade government classes to engage our next generation of voters in a civic pep talk, focusing on the need for greater citizen participation in the democratic process to ensure a better and more ethical government. (Coverage is welcome and encouraged. Below is a partial list of some of the prominent speakers and the senior high schools in which they'll appear.)

As part of its mission of ethics outreach and education, The Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust earlier this year proclaimed Ethical Governance Day to take place just prior to the presidential election, to raise awareness of the importance of honest and transparent leadership to a vibrant and successful democracy. Miami-Dade Public Schools, The Children's Trust, Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Gimenez and the Board of County Commissioners, the cities of Doral, Bay Harbor Islands and North Miami Beach, and Florida International University are among the entities endorsing and supporting Ethical Governance Day.

At FIU, Ethics Commission Chair Dr. Dawn Addy will be among the speakers at a public discussion entitled "Ethics in Government: Finding Your Moral Compass," from 3 to 5 on p.m. in the SIPA Auditorium at the Modesto A. Maidique campus. Joining her will be South Miami Mayor Dr. Philip Stoddard, former Miami City attorney Dr. George Knox and Dr. Valerie Patterson.

Also on Friday, candidates for office in November are invited to give a locally televised speech—not about themselves, their opponents or partisan issues—but about their ideas and vision for the promotion of ethics in government. That will take place, beginning at 1 p.m. in Room 18-4 of the Stephen P. Clark Center, 111 NW First St. in downtown Miami. Their speeches will be broadcast and web streamed live and repeated over the next few weeks on Miami-Dade Television.

Selected Ethical Governance Day speakers

Times reflect class periods and the speakers' presence is subject to change. Please check in at school office.

Speaker	School	<u>Time</u>
County Comm. Xavier Suarez	South Miami, 6856 SW 53 St.	9:30-10:30
County Comm. Linda Bell	South Dade, 28401 SW 167 Ave.	1:00-2:00
Miami Comm. Francis Suarez	Young Men's Prep, 3001 NW 2 Ave.	9:50-11:20
Sch. Bd. Mem. Carlos Curbelo	Killian, 10655 SW 97 Ave.	8:25-10:30
Sch. Bd. Mem. Dr. Martin Karp	M. Krop, 1410 County Line Rd.	10:35-12:10
Sch. Bd. Mem. Dr. Larry Feldman	Palmetto, 7460 SW 118 St.	12:15-2:20
Former Ch. 10 Meteorologist Don Noe	Palmetto, 7460 SW 118 St.	7:20-9:30
Ethics Comms. Nelson Bellido & Charlto	on Copeland, Hialeah-Miami Lakes, 7977 W. 12 Ave	9:00-10:25
Chief Ass't St. Atty. Don Horn	Booker T. Washington, 1200 NW 6 Ave.	10:30-2:20
Chief Ass't St. Atty. Jose Arrojo	Miami Sr. 2450 SW 1 St.	7:20-8:50 & 10:40-12:10
Cty. Judge Donald Cannava	Miami Beach, 2231 Prairie Ave.	7:20-9:00
Cty. Judge William Altfield	Palmetto, 7460 SW 118 St.	7:20-9:30
Cty. Judge Rodolfo Ruiz	MAST Acd. 3979 Rickenbacker Cswy.	8:00-9:05
Cty. Judge Michelle Alvarez Barakat	Sunset, 13125 SW 72 St.	8:35-9:25
MB Vice Mayor Jorge Exposito	Miami Beach, 2231 Prairie Ave.	9:05-10:35
Former County Comm. Jimmy Morales	Miami Beach, 2231 Prairie Ave.	7:20-9:00

The Ethics Commission was created in 1996 as an independent agency with advisory and quasi-judicial powers. It is composed of five members, serving staggered terms of four years each. Through a program of education, outreach and enforcement, the Commission seeks to empower the community and bolster public trust.